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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/922,201 | 08/02/2001 | Gregory Maurice Plow | STL920000037US1 | 1396 |

55436 7590 11/25/2008
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| EXAMINER |
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LASTRA, DANIEL

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3688

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| MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
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11/25/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/922,201 | Applicant(s) PLOW ET AL. | |
| | Examiner DANIEL LASTRA | Art Unit 3688 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4 and 8-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4 and 8-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 3688

1. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 8-10 have been examined. Application 09/922,201 (SYSTEM, METHOD, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR SELECTIVELY DISPLAYING INTERNET ADVERTISEMENTS) has a filing date 08/02/2001.

Response to Amendment

2. In response to Final Rejection filed 03/19/2008, the Applicant filed an RCE on 09/02/2008, which amended claim 1 and cancel claims 2 and 11-31.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1, 4, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Based on Supreme Court precedent, a method/process claim must (1) be tied to another statutory class of invention (such as a particular apparatus) (see at least *Diamond v. Diehr*, 450 U.S. 175, 184 (1981); *Parker v. Flook*, 437 U.S. 584, 588 n.9 (1978); *Gottschalk v. Benson*, 409 U.S. 63, 70 (1972); *Cochrane v. Deener*, 94 U.S. 780, 787-88 (1876)) or (2) transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or materials) to a different state or thing (see at least *Gottschalk v. Benson*, 409 U.S. 63, 71 (1972)). A method/process claim that fails to meet one of the above requirements is not in compliance with the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101 for patent eligible subject matter. Here the claims fail to meet the above requirements because the steps in the embodiment of claims are neither tied to another statutory class of invention (such as a particular apparatus).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4, 8, 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rakavy et al (U.S. 5,913,040).

As per claim 1, Rakavy teaches:

A computer-method for selectively displaying Internet advertisements, comprising the acts of:

allowing a user to choose at least one advertisement channel from an advertisement channel menu presenting plural advertisement channels;

displaying advertisements at least partially based on what channel is selected by the user (see column 3, lines 1-44; column 9, line 15 – column 10, line 12);

displaying a menu of user definable advertising attributes (see column 9, lines 15-50; column 10, lines 21-40), wherein the user definable attributes include at least one of: city, zip code, retailers, distance of travel to a retailer, retail only, or wholesale only (see column 9, lines 35-40; retailers such as “fast food vendors”)

and further comprising allowing the user to create an advertisement window in which advertisements are displayed (see col 9, lines 15-50).

As per claim 4 , Rakavy teaches:

allowing the user to establish the values of the user definable attributes (see column 7, lines 42-67).

As per claim 8, Rakavy teaches:

the act of displaying at least one advertisement corresponding to a user selected advertisement channel (see column 11, lines 45-57).

As per claim 9, Rakavy teaches:

wherein the advertisement channels menu includes at least one of: a travel advertisement channel, a food advertisement channel, an automotive advertisement channel, a clothing advertisement channel, a music advertisement channel, a movie advertisement channel, an antiques advertisement channel, a hardware advertisement channel, a sporting goods advertisement channel, a housewares advertisement channel, an art supplies advertisement channel (see column 9, lines 34-40).

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rakavy et al (U.S. 5,913,040) in view of Smith (U.S. 6,615,248).

As per claim 10, Rakavy fails to teach wherein the advertisements are displayed at a device that receives Internet content and television broadcast content. Smith teaches a system that displays television programs and Internet content in a user's browser (see figures 4 and 5; column 7, lines 25-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the application was made, to know that Rakavy would use the system taught by Smith, to display television programs and Internet information in a browser. This feature would allow users to view television programs, while simultaneously searching for information via the Internet.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 09/02/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Applicant argues that Rakavy does not teach "allowing a user to create an advertising window" because according to Applicant, in Rakavy, the system calls -not user command - that only advertising can be displayed as background wallpaper without implicating user command and used to modify a cursor with no user command implicated. The Examiner answers that Rakavy teaches in col 9, lines 15-50 that the advertising display manager is responsible for selecting and displaying advertisements from the User preference and advertisement database, where the user inputs in his preferences whether wallpaper or cursor advertisements are allowed. Therefore, contrary to Applicant's argument, in Rakavy, there is a user command in selecting where advertisement would be displayed .

Conclusion


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL LASTRA whose telephone number is 571-272-6720 and fax 571-273-6720. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James W. Myhre can be reached on (571)272-6722. The official Fax number is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3688

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/DANIEL LASTRA/
Examiner, Art Unit 3688
November 22, 2008

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| <div><i>Application Number</i></div> <div></div> | Application/Control No. | Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination | |
| | 09/922,201 | PLOW ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | DANIEL LASTRA | 3688 | |